

Practice Management Insight

A report on events affecting Oklahoma providers

February 2015

Delay in mental health placement frustrates Oklahoma County judge



An angry Oklahoma County judge Wednesday threatened to jail the state's mental health commissioner because a mentally ill criminal defendant did not get treatment for six months.

District Judge Ray C. Elliott said Commissioner Terri White blatantly ignored his July 24 written order committing the jail inmate to a state mental health facility in Vinita for treatment.

White was not present for the hearing but was represented by the state agency's general counsel, Dewayne Moore.

The judge did not accept the attorney's explanation that the inmate was not moved until this week because the Oklahoma Forensic Center in Vinita had no space.

"You just don't get to ignore a court order," the judge said during a contempt-of-court hearing. "It's kind of sad that I have to tell the commissioner of the Department of Mental Health the same thing I have to tell someone who's committed eight felonies."

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OHCA Policies and Rules: Part 21 Outpatient Behavioral Health Services

All outpatient behavioral health providers eligible for reimbursement under OAC 317:30-5-240 et seq. must be an accredited or Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS) certified organization/agency in accordance with Section(s) 3-317, 3-323A, 3-306.1 or 3-415 of Title 43A of the Oklahoma Statutes and have a current contract on file with the Oklahoma Health Care Authority.

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Attitudes of mental health professionals toward mental illness: a deeper understanding.

Because mental health professionals are not immune to negative attitudes toward adults with mental illness, researchers have questioned where these attitudes might originate, as well as what affects them. Although there have been quantitative studies that broadly explore attitudes toward mental illness, in-depth understanding of factors that affect the attitudes of mental health professionals will offer insight to practitioners and researchers alike. This qualitative study explored the impact of educational programs and professional experience on the attitudes of mental health professionals toward their clients. Based on the results, this article describes a continuum of attitudes toward mental illness for counselors, educators, supervisors, and related professionals as a tool to understand their attitudes toward mental illness.

[More Information](#)

8 behavioral health policy issues in 2015

Although the last Congress was criticized for lack of action, it got quite a bit done on behavioral health, including passage of the Excellence in Mental Health Act and funding for mental health first-aid training. But those are just first steps, and they require lots of follow-up work. Likewise, as the Affordable Care Act (ACA) implementation continues to roll out, behavioral health executives will monitor how it impacts their practices. *Behavioral Healthcare* asked policy thought leaders to talk about which issues they believe will be top priorities in 2015.

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| Mental health care lacking in state and federal prisons | Potential of Psilocybin in Mental Health Therapy |
|---|---|
| <p>A significant portion of state and federal prisoners are not receiving treatment for mental health conditions, according to research by The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) School of Public Health. The study was published recently in the <i>American Journal of Public Health</i>.</p> <p>Mental health disorders among prisoners have consistently exceeded rates of disorders in the general population. Twenty six percent of prisoners reported a mental health diagnosis in the study, compared to 18 percent in the general population in 2012, according to the National Institutes of Health.</p> <p>State and federal courts mandate that inmates must have access to adequate health services in prison. However, that mandate usually covers only "severe or serious" mental illnesses, according to the paper.</p> <p>More Information</p> | <p>Over the past 50 years, tens of millions of people have used entheogens, yet there just is not much scientific evidence on either positive or negative long-term effects of these substances. The classical psychedelics (LSD, psilocybin, etc.) are not known to cause brain damage and are regarded as non-addictive. Research has also concluded there are no significant associations between lifetime and recent use of entheogens and no increased rate of mental health outcomes.</p> <p>Rather, in several cases entheogen use was associated with a lower rate of mental health problems.</p> <p>A recent study at the Psychiatric University Hospital of Zurich has shown that psilocybin, the bioactive component in the Mexican "magic mushroom," influences the amygdala, thereby weakening the processing of negative stimuli.</p> <p>More Information</p> |

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- February 13
Last Day for Early Bird Registration Discount
[2015 National Wellness Conference](#)
- February 14
Valentine's Day
- February 16
President's Day
- February 17-18
Wraparound 101: OKC: Health Home Providers Only
[OKC, OK](#)
- February 18
Permanent Rulemaking Public Hearing: OHCA
[OKC, OK](#)
- February 18-20
Transition to Independence Process (TIP)
[Norman, OK](#)
- February 19
Family Support Provider (FSP) Training: OKC
[OKC, OK](#)
- February 22-28
Eating Disorders Awareness Week
- February 23
ASAM Training
[OKC, OK](#)
- February 26-27
Continuing the MI Journey: Tulsa
[Tulsa, OK](#)

Pricing Worksheet—Behavioral Health Care Accreditation—2015

Joint Commission accreditation fees are assessed by volume of an organization. The fees are based on a combination of an on-site survey fee billed during the year of the organization's on-site survey and an annual fee billed during application year and in January of each year during an organization's accreditation cycle. Approximately 60% of the organization's total accreditation fees are due during the year of the on-site survey.

For any questions, please contact Peggy Lavin at 630-792-5411.

[More Information](#)



February is

National Children's Dental Health Month

American Heart Month

Can providers sue for higher Medicaid pay?

The U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments Tuesday in a case that could block hospitals, doctors — or anyone else — from suing states over inadequate payment rates for providers who participate in the Medicaid program for low-income Americans.

Federal law requires Medicaid, which covers 70 million people, to provide the same access to care as that given to people with private insurance. But many doctors avoid seeing Medicaid recipients, saying the program pays too little. That can lead to delays and difficulties in getting care for millions of poor people.

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